on the support price being given to farmers by Government; and

(b) if any one of them is adversely affected then what steps Government propose to take to obviate the adverse effect of the agreement on these categories?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) There will be no adverse effect on procurement of food grains and on the support price.

(b) Does not arise.

Bill on Sui-Generis

6274. SHRI S. S. SURJEWALA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to introduce a bill in the current session to make an act in 'Sui Generis' for safeguarding farmers' interests; and

(b) whether Government have considered the views of the ICAR on the above issue and if so, the points recommended by ICAR which are being incorporated in the proposed bill?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) ICAR has been fully associated with the drafting of the legislation.

Effects of GATT on Industries

6275. SHRI RAMNATH KOVIND: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the short term and long term effects on our national industries of our becoming a member of GATT;

(b) whether these effects can be measured in some common denominations and if so, what will be the scenario on time-scale;

(c) whether there are any apprehensions of arm twisting by the industrialized countries on economic pressures because of our joining GATT; and

(d) the areas most vulnerable because of our medium technology status vis-a-vis industrialised countries?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (d) India has been a member of GATT since 1948. The reults of the Uruguay Round will establish an open, rule-based multilateral trading system which will enable trade to be carried out in a stable and predictable environment. A GATT secretariat study has estimated that the greates increases are likely to be in trade in textiles, agricultural products and products of the food processing industry. The same Study has estimated the increase in global trade (at the end of ten years) to be more than 700 billion dollars.

Members of GATT enjoy the protection of the multilateral Dispute Settlement Mechanism and are therefore better placed to withstand unilateral pressures in areas covered by the multilateral Agreement.

The most competitive sectors of industry would stand to gain the most, and the technology used is only one of the factors determining competitiveness.

Non-product specific and product specific subsidies

6276. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA:

SHRI ANANTRAY DEV-SHANKER DAVE:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total value of non-product specific and product specific subsidies as on date;

(b) whether it is a fact that there are differences among agricultural economists on the methodology of calculating